



February 8, 2007

Ms. Tracie Billington (via email)  
Department of Water Resources  
Division of Planning and Assistance  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Ms. Shahla Farahnak (via email)  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Financial Assistance  
1001 "I" Street, 16th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan-  
Implementation Grant Application

Dear Ms. Billington and Ms. Farahnak:

As Executive Director of the Aptos Chamber of Commerce, I would like to extend my support for the Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Watershed Management Implementation grant proposal. The Chamber recognizes the value and importance of regional coordination and integrated planning in all areas of public interest.

Integrated water resources management is particularly embraced here in Santa Cruz County because of the severe water supply shortage, total dependence on local water resources, and significant environmental concerns for watersheds. The Northern Santa Cruz County water resource agencies have worked together since 1998 and have developed collaborative partnerships that resulted in proposed projects to address high priority needs with multi-faceted benefits. A \$12.5 million grant will make it possible for many of these projects to become a reality.

I urge you to award the Proposition 50 grant to this worthy suite of projects that benefit our unique Central Coast region.

Sincerely,

Karen Hibble  
Executive Director  
Aptos Chamber of Commerce



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